



## Office of the Webb County Judge

# Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, Colonel Santos Benavides was the great-great-grandson of Tomas Sanchez, the founder of Laredo; and,

**WHEREAS**, Colonel Santos Benavides was the highest ranking Mexican American to serve the Confederacy during the American Civil War; and,

**WHEREAS**, On **March 19, 1864**, during the Civil War, the Benavides Regiment, Commanded by Colonel Santos Benavides, with only 40 men against a force of 200, defeated the Union Army in the Battle of Laredo; and,

**WHEREAS**, Colonel Santos Benavides won further distinction as the leader of several campaigns against hostile Lipan Apaches and other marauding Indians that threatened the community of Laredo; and,

**WHEREAS**, Colonel Santos Benavides also served his community in the official capacities of Mayor, County Judge, and three times in the State Legislature, during which he was instrumental in bringing a traditionally isolated region closer to the mainstream of Texas politics;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I **Louis H. Bruni**, by virtue of the authority vested in me as **Webb County Judge**, and on behalf of the **Webb County Commissioner's Court**, do hereby proclaim the week of **March 18, 2005** as:

## Colonel Santos Benavides Week

In Webb County, Texas in honor of Colonel Santos Benavides, a most significant member of our community of the 1900 century.

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*In Witness whereof, I have hereunto signed my name  
officially and caused the Official Seal of Webb County,  
Texas, to be affixed on this 18<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2005.*

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**The Honorable Louis H. Bruni**  
**Webb County Judge**